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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President
Vladimir Putin of Russia

PARTICIPANTS: President Putin

Interpreter: Peter Afanasenko
Notetakers: Michael Eaton, Diana Schmidt,
and Todd Whatley

DATE, TIME May 10, 2007, 7:47-8:00 a.m. EDT
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: Hello, Vladimir. How are you doing? (U)

President Putin: Excellent. It is good to hear from you,
George. (U)

The President: I talked to my mother, Dad, and Clinton, and I
appreciate your warm hospitality to them. (U)

President Putin: You know, we appreciate it greatly that
President Clinton and your father, he is not a young man, made it
all the way across the ocean. Please convey to them, and your
father in particular, our appreciation. It was a real sign of
respect. (U)

The President: I will. [REDACTED] b(6)

[REDACTED] b(6)

[REDACTED] b(6) I don't want to take up much of your time, but I
want to talk to you about the upcoming G-8. The climate change
issue looks like it is going to be the center of attention. I
wanted to let you know that we are going to come with an
approach, and one of my top men will come to talk to your people,
that will recognize there is a problem but that a solution
recognizes the needs for new technologies, economic growth, and
economic cooperation that meets the concerns of each country. I
am calling a lot of leaders such as yourself, and I will be
calling other leaders to let them know our approach is sensible
and meets the national interests of each country and also meets
international concerns. This approach is a little different than
the one pursued by our friends in Europe. I am not interested in

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a clash, but I am interested in a solution we can all live with.
(S)

President Putin: I see. I understand, and frankly I am not aware of what exactly your proposal is right now. Our position is that we should try to find a mutually-acceptable solution. Of course, we will not take a position of condemning the U.S. for resolving these issues. To the extent possible, we will try to play a passing game, giving a pass to each other. That should be in cooperation and correspond to the spirit of G-8. (S)

The President: Yeah, okay. (U)

President Putin: We will try to do it so this does not present the U.S. position in a negative light in international public opinion. All the more so, there are many experts in our country who think the European approach has many drawbacks and shortcomings. (S)

The President: I have two people coming to visit. Jim Connaughton will be meeting with your environment minister. Of course, Condi is coming May 14 and 15, and I hope she has the chance to drop by and say hello to you. (S)

President Putin: George, right now I am in Kazakhstan. I would like to use this opportunity to pass the best wishes and greetings of President Nazarbayev. (S)

The President: Thank you. (U)

President Putin: He has the best of reminiscences and recalled your warm hospitality when you received him. He spoke in the best of terms about your meeting. (S)

The President: Thanks, Vladimir. (U)

President Putin: As far as I understand, Condi will be in Moscow on May 14 and 15. (U)

The President: Yes, sir. (U)

President Putin: My schedule is that I will be back in Moscow late on the 14. A possible meeting time would be in the morning of the 15, in the first half of the day. (S)

The President: Great. (U)

President Putin: It will be a pleasure for me to meet her and convey through her our best wishes. (S)

(The President: Thank you. Give the President my best. He is an important and interesting man because he values his friendship with you and me equally, and that is a good thing. Please give him my best. (S)

President Putin: I will do that. Thank you. Today we signed an agreement with him on a uranium-enrichment facility in Russia. (S)

The President: That is good. (U)

President Putin: We proposed to Iran to join in this initiative and to use the facilities of this center for peaceful purposes. (S)

The President: That is good. I support you on that. I think it is important that you say to Iran that if you want a nuclear power plant that is fine, but Russia will give you the fuel and pick up the spent fuel. That is a very smart move on your part. It calls their bluff. They darn sure don't need a weapon, and I thank you for your position on that issue as well. (S)

(President Putin: George, we have signed this agreement with Kazakhstan today, and this issue is of particular importance because Kazakhstan is the second largest uranium producer. They have the second largest uranium reserves. (S)

The President: Right. Thank you for taking my phone call, and I will tell Condi to adjust her schedule to meet yours. (S)

President Putin: Yes, we have agreed on the subject, and we will be happy to see her in Moscow. (S)

The President: Thank you for taking the call. (U)

President Putin: I also thank you for supporting our experts on the library initiative. (U)

The President: Good. Have a wonderful trip and stay in touch. (U)

President Putin: Please, my best regards to your family. (U)

The President: Please give my best to Lyudmila. (U)

President Putin: I also want to congratulate you on the victory day we marked yesterday. Thanks, we will be in touch. (U)

(The President: All the best. (U)

President Putin: All the best. (U)

The President: Bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --